



**SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION
SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES
March 23, 2022 ~ Microsoft Teams**

Members Present	Members Absent	Guests
Jim Bailey, Chair Abi Haring-Brito, Vice Chair Suzanne Hickel Dr. Emily McMahan Mary Shields Dawnia Clements AnnaBell Stevens	Amanda Rinner (U) Traci Willett (U)	Joe Gerace, Director AHD Marge Stoneking, AARP <u>Staff Liaison:</u> Judy Atkins

Call to Order

Chair Bailey started the meeting at 10:02 a.m. with a quorum.

Introductions

Approval of the Agenda

Move to approve the agenda as presented, Commissioner Stevens; seconded by Commissioner Clements; **hearing no objection, the motion passed.**

Approval of Minutes

Move to approve the February 23, 2022 minutes as presented, Commissioner Stevens; seconded by Commissioner Hickel; **hearing no objection, the motion passed.**

Presentations

Legislative | AARP Report - Marge Stoneking, AARP

Ms. Stoneking presented a bill tracking spreadsheet and provided an overview of current Senate and House bills that relate and/or may affect the senior population. Bills of concern: HB 111 Dental hygienist advanced practice permit; SB 216/HB 308 a bill on Dementia Awareness – a top priority to both AARP and the Senior Commission; SB 183 Home and community-based services bill which will affect the Anchorage community and rural Alaska as well; SB 175 / HB 265, the Health are services by Telehealth bill, of importance to most seniors. The commission is appreciative of the informative updates Ms. Stoneking provides and appreciates her support too.

Action: Motion by Commissioner Clements for the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission to prepare and present a resolution in support of SB 175/HB 265 Health Care Services by Telehealth. Seconded by Commissioner McMahan. **Hearing no objections, the motion passed.**

Action: Motion by Commissioner Hickel for the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission to prepare and present a resolution in support of SB 216/HB 308 Dementia Awareness. Seconded by Commissioner Stevens. **Hearing no objections, the motion passed.**

AHD staff will assist with the writing of the resolutions. Mr. Gerace suggested inviting the Health and Human Services Commission to add their endorsement to the resolutions.

Old Business

Older Americans Month Event. Chair Bailey, Vice Chair Haring-Brito and Ms. Atkins provided updates on the various facets of the event. Date: May 4, 2022, Time: 10:30-12:30, Venue: Anchorage Senior Activity Center (for 80) and a Zoom virtual meeting. Various food items have been offered by the Center-decisions will be made as funding sources are identified. Guest speaker: Madeline Holdorf with AARP was suggested to speak about the theme topic and also Anchorage as an Age-Friendly city. Additionally have seniors speak about their Alaska adventures, like Dawnia Clements. Ms. Haring-Brito said most of the areas of concern are working out, just need to finalize the speaker. Commissioner Stevens will ask Megan Killoran to sing our National Anthem. Ms. Atkins reported that we anticipate receiving two congressional videos; the Mayor is unable to attend but will provide a Proclamation; State proclamation also anticipated. No nominations for the Ron Hammett Award have been received; the subcommittee will keep in touch and meet to make the final decision; nominations will be forwarded as they are received.

Commission Retreat. The commission retreat will be held on Wednesday, April 27, 2022 from 10am-12:30pm. The meeting will open with 'business', followed immediately by the retreat. Commissioner Shields has agreed to be the facilitator and preferred that the meeting be held both in person and on Zoom, which was agreed to. Ms. Shields will confirm with the Anchorage Senior Activity Center. Discussion on the goals and objectives of the retreat – Commission Clements would like to speak about how COVID has affected seniors and their quality of life. Other topics: continue talking about Alzheimer's and dementia; Anchorage as an Age-Friendly Designation. Ms. Atkins will send out an email urging all commissioner to let Ms. Shields know what topic(s) they would like to address.

New Business

Comments from the Chair

Chair appreciate all for attending the meeting and thanked them for their endeavors to advocate for Seniors.

Commissioner/Guest Comments/Announcements

Commissioner McMahan was pleased for the continued support for Telehealth, as this is an integral part of health care for seniors.

Commissioner Clements thanked all for the get well wishes while she was in the hospital.

Adjournment

Next meeting is the Commission Retreat and will be held in person at the Anchorage Senior Activity Center on April 27, 2022 from 10:00-12:30pm.

Meeting adjourned at 10:53.